

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Claims 10 and 11 have been added.

Priority

A certified copy of the Japanese application is enclosed herewith.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections

The rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor in view of Watkins is respectfully traversed.

In amended claims 1 and 7, Taguchi teaches a password generation and verification system that verifies the selected password element to the sampled password to provide the verification information. A plurality of password elements are pre-stored by a user in the element group for each category (e.g. name). The user pre-stores the password elements (e.g. mothers name, relatives name, singers name who the user likes, pet name, etc.) that are familiar to the user. A plurality of scramble elements are also pre-stored in the scramble element storage means as well. The sampled

password element is randomly sampled or picked up from the element group, and a plurality of scramble elements, which not only belong to the same category as the sampled password element, but also are different from the sampled password element, are randomly sampled or picked up from the scramble element storage means. The sampled password element and the plurality of scramble elements are mixed and arranged in random order for each category to display the mixed element group. The selected password element is selected from the mixed element group for each category to verify the selected password element to the sampled password element for each category.

Taylor teaches a caller identification verification system that sends a question set to a caller. Taylor does not teach storing, selecting or using password elements, scramble elements or mixed elements. Taguchi does not teach displaying a set of questions along with the possible answers, but displays the sampled password element and a plurality of the scramble elements in random order.

Taguchi teaches three data structures. These three structures comprise a first structure having a plurality of different categories, a second structure storing a plurality of element groups selected from the plurality of different categories, each group including a plurality of password elements, and a plurality of scramble elements, and a third

structure including a mixed element group for each category having a sampled password element and a plurality of sampled scramble elements in random order. Taylor fails to teach such three data structures. Additionally, Watkins does not teach these three data structures and therefore does not supply the missing teaching.

Claims 2-6, 10 and 8, 9, 11 depend from claims 1 and 7, respectively, and are allowable for the same reasons.

Since none of the applied references teach or suggest applicant's claimed structure and since none of the applied references can achieve the functions of the present invention, applicant believes that claims 1-11 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that each of the claims is in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. Should there be any questions or remaining issues, Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney for a speedy resolution.

Respectfully requested,



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